

Diamond

Volume XXXII, Number 12

Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa

Thursday, April 27, 1989

Student projects win scholarship

by Karla Kamp

For the fifth year in a row, students from Dordt's senior engineering design class have won the DEED (Demonstration of Energy Efficient Developments) Scholarship. But this year is the first time that the award has gone to two groups: James Koetsier and Dale Woudstra, and Rudy Tolkamp and Myron Kuipers.

The scholarship is awarded by the American Public Power Association (APPA), an association for cities owning its own utilities, and works in conjunction with the city. APPA only grants ten scholarships of \$ 3,000.00 per year for research projects that promote energy efficiency, have an innovative design, benefit the community, and serve to educate the community by pushing the need of energy conservation.

Koetsier and Woudstra are working on a project that provides about fifty per cent of a hog confinement's heating needs through solar heating. The two students are working closely with the Dordt Agriculture Stewardship Center. Although Koetsier and Woudstra say the project probably won't be implemented, the research is important because it can be applied to solar heating for other agricultural structures. "The key to the project is research and design," says Koetsier.

Koetsier and Woudstra decided to research a design related to agriculture because both come from agricultural backgrounds. Next year, Koetsier plans on attending the University of Waterloo in Ontario to complete his education, while Woudstra will be working as a consultant for a heating



Recipients of the DEED Scholarship: Myron Kuipers, Dale Woudstra, Rudy Tolkamp, and James Koetsier.

Photo by Paul Vande Kamp

and ventilation company in Sioux Center.

Kuipers and Tolkamp's research project consists of two parts. On top of the engineering wing in the science building, they have set up an instrument to measure solar radiation. Although there are a few imperfections, Kuipers says the

system should be functioning properly by summer.

The second part of Kuipers and Tolkamp's project is using the data they receive from measuring the solar energy and working with the city of Sioux Center to suggest ways in which the planned mall could be heated through solar energy. They are also

looking into methods of recovering heat from freezers and ovens within the grocery store and bakery which will be a part of the mall.

Kuipers hopes to attend the University of Arizona next year and concentrate in the area of material science. Tolkamp plans to continue his education in graduate school at the University of Ottawa in the area of Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing (CAD-CAM).

All four scholarship recipients are a part of a senior engineering design course taught by Professor Charles Adams. The students must pick a research project at the beginning of the first semester which they work on throughout the year. Koetsier explains that the class is like a practicum. "It's the culmination of our education," he says.

Koetsier and Woudstra appreciate Adams' help with research projects. Students run ideas by Adams to see what he thinks, but, as Koetsier says, "He never solves problems, but acts as a guiding hand."

Woudstra and Koetsier say the project's greatest benefit was learning to work as a group and being able to brush shoulders with experts in the engineering field. Kuipers stresses the importance of the communication he and Tolkamp had with the city.

Next week the four students will receive the scholarships during a Sioux Center council meeting. Koetsier, Woudstra, Kuipers, and Tolkamp are excited about the award. Koetsier says, "It makes the work you put into the project well worth it."

Rep returns for third tour

by Christine Van Belle

On May 12, nine students and Dr. Verne Meyer will leave Dordt's campus to begin the Repertory Theatre tour. Throughout the tour, they will be perform in front of high school students, alumni organizations, and church congregations. In a two-and-a-half-week time period, the actors will tour Utah, California, and make their final performances in New Mexico. They were scheduled to perform shows in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona, but the group wasn't

able to get there before the regular school year ended.

The plays they will be performing are *Partly to Know Something About Love* and *Vigil*, both written by Dr. James C. Schaap.

Meyer says, "The backbone of my understanding of the significance of Repertory Theatre is, if ever Christians are going to succeed in being reformatinal in theatre, we must develop a distinctly reformed Christian voice, in terms of

performance techniques and production substance." The Repertory Theatre performs work of Christian authors for this reason. Meyer says it is important to do work by Christian authors that have a strong, but not moralistic message.

As well as performing the plays, the actors will lead drama workshops in high schools giving students the opportunity to try their hand at drama.

Meyer is excited about the tour, especially because of the warm

reception the past groups have received. It makes him "ache" to turn down invitations to perform because of limited time.

The troupe, consisting of Barry Funderburg, Brian Klazinga, Ed Wierenga, Joy Kadyk, Julie Sawtelle, Kathy Powell, Brenda Atsma, and Nancy Schiebout will kick off their tour with a performance at New World Theatre at 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 6.

News Shorts

by Teri Nikkel

Professors celebrate silver anniversary

Most of the '88-'89 graduates have been at Dordt for four years. But there are others who have been on campus for 25 years.

Dr. Willis Alberda, Professor Arnold Koekkoek, and Dr. Aaldert Mennega are celebrating their 25th year on Dordt's campus. Alberda, from the math department, Koekkoek, from the history department, and Mennega, from the biology department, joined the Dordt faculty in 1964. The Dordt community appreciates their years of service and wishes them many more years of success.

Activities bring campus alive before dead week

You've handed in your English writing project, given your last communications speech, and taken your final philosophy quiz. But while assignments are now few, the calendar is still full with activities. Spend some of your free time enjoying on-campus events.

To Spain in one sitting--Tonight, April 27, why not take a trip to Spain? Cheer for your favorite bull fighter, stop at a fiesta, and enjoy the variety of scenery while viewing "The Spanish Season," a KDCR Travel and Adventure film. Bob Pearce, the filmmaker and host for the evening, is from British Columbia and was a television news reporter before his career turned to travel. Join him at 8:00 p.m., in the chapel, with a \$1.75 for student admission.

Ag-cellent!--Take a test just for fun on "Ag Day," April 28. An agriculture trivia guessing game is only part of the fun and games. Beginning at 10:00 a.m., a variety of activities will make up the annual event sponsored by Dordt's Ag Club. Take a look at displays, enter contests, see a skit, and be sure to visit the petting zoo and concession stand, near the SUB and main parking lot.

An evening with the Jones'--On the evening of the 28th, at 8:00, attend a performance by Connie Jones and the Crescent City Jazz Band, in the chapel. The six piece group has a repertory which is vast, varied, and exciting. The band's popularity is due largely to Connie's pleasing personality, his strong vocals, his talented side-men, and their ability to answer to most requests readily.

Orchestra, plus--Witness the musical talent of the Dordt chamber orchestra on Wednesday, May 3, at 8:00 p.m., in the chapel. Selected musicians from local high schools and from the Sioux County Orchestra will join in the second half of the performance. The chamber orchestra and combined ensemble will be conducted by Professor Henry Duitman. There is no admission charge.

Art with character--If you get the chance to attend all these events and still have time to spare, don't forget about the new exhibit in the art gallery. "Characters and Colors" is the title of the exhibit designed by senior Sharyl Wielard, a major in art and business. The pieces focus on people and will include photos, paintings, ceramics, and weavings. The display will close on May 4.

Now after keeping up with this hectic schedule, exams should be a breeze!

Soviets accept Christian students

InterVarsity, a Christian fellowship group, and two universities in the Soviet Union will bring college students from the United States and the Soviet Union together this summer in the Ukrainian Republic. The universities will each host twenty of the InterVarsity students from July 31, 1989.

Dan Harrison, InterVarsity's director of international relations, says, "As far as I am aware, this is the first time a Soviet university has entered into an exchange agreement with a Christian organization."

The purpose of the exchange is to promote good relationships, trust, and openness. Harrison stresses that if American students are allowed to study in the Soviet Union, some of them should be Christians.



The new Hy-vee store had its grand opening Tuesday, April 25. Many Dordt students spent extra hours working to make the opening possible.

Photo by Paul Vande Kamp

TOGETHER FOR A
SAFE
CAMPUS

ZOO U.

by Mark Weitzman



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Diamond

The *Diamond* is published by the students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond it. Any letters, comments or opinions are welcome. Contributions to the *Diamond* must be signed and received by the Monday before publication.

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Diamond
Dordt College
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The *Diamond* reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any contribution.

Editor in Chief: Galen Sinkey
Assistant Editor: Teri Nikkel
Administrative Assistant: Beth Verhoef
Copy Editor: Karla Kamp
Graphics Editor: Steve Mantel
Photo Editor: Angela Eriksen
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Placement office aids job search

by Bethany Verhoef

Graduation--it's a time to look back and a time to look ahead; it's a time when some doors are closing while many new ones are opening. For many of the graduates, it's a scary time. They are now being faced with finding a job out in the "real world," preferably in the area they went to school for, and that task isn't always easy.

One place graduates can go for help in finding a job is Dordt's Placement Office. The Placement Office aids in the job-search process in several ways. They try to establish direct contact with businesses and other potential employers, and they keep a file of all the information that comes in and make it available to all interested students.

The Placement Office also publishes job bulletins every two weeks, trades job bulletins with other

schools, and subscribes to several other bulletins which are made available to students. This information can be valuable in letting students know what jobs are available and where they are located.

Alumni also play an important role in job placement. According to Quentin Van Essen, Director of Career Planning and Placement, "Alumni are really a key when it comes to placement." He says they "keep their eyes and ears open" for job opportunities and often let Dordt know when positions are available.

However, establishing direct contact for students is not the Placement Office's primary goal. Van Essen says, "Our primary responsibility is to help seniors know how to get a job....Our goal is to prepare students so they can go out and help themselves." To aid in this

preparation, each year the Placement Office conducts workshops in interviewing and resume-writing to help students develop skills that will benefit them many years after they have graduated.

The response to the efforts of the Placement Office has generally been quite positive. Steve Mulder, a senior secondary education major, says, "The Placement Office does a really fantastic job. They have been really helpful with the whole [job-search] process."

However, even with the efforts of the Placement Office, some graduates find it very difficult to find a job. Many of them spend several weeks (or longer) searching for potential openings, filling out applications, polishing resumes, and making phone calls, yet they yield only negative response, no response at all, or the

dreaded "Maybe when you get some experience...." This can be very frustrating and many graduates wonder if they'll ever get a job.

Yet there is hope. According to a study put out by the Placement Office six months after graduation last year, 94.2% of all the graduates had found employment. These findings are consistent with average yearly figures, according to Van Essen.

For those graduates who still haven't found employment, the thing to do is just keep looking, relying on faith to keep from getting too discouraged. As senior Mark Buss says, "You just have to take the rejections with a grain of salt, shrug your shoulders, and keep on plugging."

Diamond wins first place

by Galen Sinkey

The Dordt *Diamond* recently received a first place award in the American Scholastic Journalist competition.

Last December, *Diamond* advisor Lorna Van Gilst sent two first semester issues to the American Scholastic Press Association for judging.

The *Diamond* issues were judged on content, page design, general plan, art and advertising, editing, and creativity.

The issues were rated highest in the editing category, receiving 100% of the possible points. The issues also

placed well in the page design and creativity categories.

The issues were rated lowest in the general plan category, receiving only 74% of the possible points. The judge criticized the *Diamond* for not using a table of contents as well as non-traditional placement of news stories, editorials, and reviews. Overall, the *Diamond* finished with 865 out of a possible 1000 points. The newspaper competed against 15 other newspapers from colleges or universities with enrollments between 500 and 1000 students.

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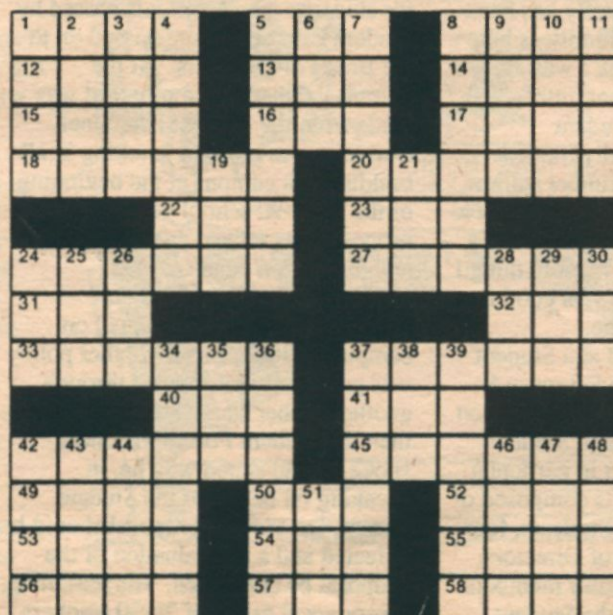
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5 Decay
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13 Exist
14 Century plant
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16 Playing card
17 Nerve network
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22 Period of time
23 The self
24 Whipped
27 Come back
31 Shoemaker's tool
- 32 Game at cards
33 Irritate
37 In truth
40 Ventilate
41 Weight of India
42 Rag
45 Chief
49 Dillseed
50 Biblical name
52 Top of head
53 Christmas carol
54 Nickname for Nancy
55 Sea eagles
56 Contest
57 Accomplished
58 Chair

DOWN

- 1 Unexpected difficulty
2 Roman garment
3 Hebrew lyre
4 Rue
5 Climbing palm
6 Miner's find

Crossword Puzzle



- 7 Fragile
8 Vegetable
9 Danish measure
10 Repetition
11 Sow
19 Before
21 Mature
24 Prohibit
25 Female sheep
26 In music, high
28 Rubber tree
29 Fish eggs
30 Bow
34 Gossip
35 Falsehood
36 Commission
37 Land surrounded by water
38 Born
39 Arranges in folds
42 Zest
43 Ox of Celebes
44 Abound
46 Challenge
47 Sicilian volcano
48 Remainder
51 Capuchin monkey

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

editor's corner

We'll be *rich* tomorrow

by Galen Sinkey

In yesterday's *Des Moines Register* I read that the Pennsylvania lottery jackpot has grown to over 100 million dollars. People in surrounding states are driving hundreds of miles to join the thousands of Pennsylvania residents in their ticket-buying frenzy. One woman buyer is so confident in her luck she told journalists, "I'll be *rich* tomorrow."

In my opinion, buying lottery tickets is one of the most foolish, brainless things a person can do. I will never understand why someone would want to dump their money into a huge jackpot for *someone else* to win.

In two weeks many of us will graduate and leave Dordt. We will be using our training, our Christian faith, and our courage to attempt to change, or *reform* our society. As graduates we must leave Dordt as soldiers ready and willing to battle Satan and his pervasive influence throughout our society. Perhaps the situation in Pennsylvania shows us a place to start. Our society seems convinced that salvation will come from wealth -- to most people, a \$100 million lottery jackpot would bring lasting freedom and happiness. As Christians we know better; we already have something better. Through our faith we know that the redemption we receive from God *for free* incomparably outweighs the benefits of the largest lottery jackpot. We can even spread the redemption we have throughout our society freely; we don't have to charge anyone lottery tickets to join the body of believers. If those residents in

Pennsylvania knew what they were missing they would leave the lottery ticket lines in hordes and flock to the church to receive true, lasting freedom and salvation.

As seniors we must leave Dordt ready to work for God's own kingdom. We must be committed to spreading redemption to wherever we are called to work. First, we can do this by living example. This is probably the hardest part. Non-Christians should be able to see a difference in our lives and families. They should see the unusual, refreshing source of happiness that we have -- provided

from non-material sources; and they should see our fierce commitment to what we believe. The second way to spread redemption is to speak out courageously for the gospel. In our culture, we must actively fight sin brought on by materialism, individualism, and injustice.

As seniors, most of us are excited to be leaving college. I know I'm ready to say good-bye to the pressures of assignments, papers, quizzes, and tests. But, for us, college graduation is more than an end of our education and the beginning of our careers. The road we've come from is just the beginning of a more difficult road we must follow. But as Christians, we can say from our hearts, "We'll be *rich* tomorrow" because God promises us sweet victory over Satan and evil.

College graduation is more than an end of our education and the beginning of our careers. The road we've come from is just the beginning of a more difficult road we must follow.

letters to the editor

Student commends Forum

To the Editor:

My dad once told me, "If you don't want anything done, form a committee." This generally has been my attitude towards committees here on campus. I don't think I was alone when I used to think committees like Student Life Senate, Student Personnel, and especially Student Forum were generally rubber stamps, an attempt by school administration to con students into thinking they had a say in school policy. The only thing I thought Student Forum was good for was to improve a resume.

Something happened at a Student Life Senate meeting on February 6 that significantly altered my views on committees in general and Student Forum and its president in particular.

Student Life Senate is composed of the President, Dean of Students, four members of the Board of Directors, four faculty members, four members of the Student Forum, the Student Forum president, and two student

members "at large." Student Life Senate is the highest level of appeal for students--any proposals passed by Student Life Senate are passed on to the Board of Directors. At the February 6 meeting, a proposal was made from the Student Personnel Committee to prohibit smoking in all buildings on campus at the beginning of the 1989-90 school year. The proposal was moved and seconded, and discussion began.

It was generally agreed that smoking should be eliminated on campus. It looked as if another policy was going to be railroaded through another rubber stamp committee. But then the Student Forum President spoke up and stated why he, in speaking on behalf of the Student Forum, felt that the proposal should be defeated and a re-evaluation of the proposal be conducted. His reasoning: a very vocal group of 20-30 smokers (maybe 2% of the school's

population?) had expressed concern to Student Forum members that they were being ignored, that alternatives to a complete ban had not really been explored and that they should be allowed to offer other alternatives. So definite were the Student Forum members and its president in defending the rights of that small group to have their questions answered and their demands met, that when it came time to vote, the proposal was defeated.

Student Life Senate has met again and a proposal was passed to ban smoking in all buildings except the west end of the snack bar effective at the start of the 1989-90 school year. Student Forum expressed sincere regret that although ample opportunities had been provided, no one had approached them with suggestions or alternatives to a complete smoking ban.

My point is this: Student Forum

did not stop that smoking ban proposal on February 6; a mere two percent of the student population did. Student Forum simply provided the means by which some students could have their arguments heard. And isn't that what a Student Forum should do?

If you don't read Student Forum minutes, fine. If you don't read the Student Forum column in the *Diamond*, that's okay. If you don't voice concerns to your Student Forum representatives or if you don't even vote come Student Forum election time, hey, no problem!

But this year, Student Forum and its president proved to me, maybe only in a small way, that a definite attempt has been made to reverse the rubber stamp image that most of the committees on campus probably don't deserve. For that, they should be commended, not criticized.

Janes Koetsier

opinion

Disciplining our minds

By Paul R. Ipema

"Give diligence to present yourself approved to God, a workman who needs not to be ashamed, handling aright the Word of truth" (II Timothy 2:15).

Every person involved with a Christian college needs to exercise the type of diligence which the apostle Paul is talking about. In other words, we need to examine closely the content of our Christian education. To do so, however, we must consider two fundamental questions.

What makes a college *Christian*?

Christians may be surprised to discover that there is not a consensus of opinion in answer to this question. Sadly enough, many people believe that bringing Christian students together makes a Christian college. For the past several years, for example, students have expressed that idea in chapels and newspaper articles. These students have expressed that what made the most profound influence on their lives at Dordt were the extra-curricular activities. In fact, this year's senior chapel was the first I

could remember in which mention was made of the impact of their classes.

This attitude was also expressed last semester in my General 300 class. Students actually said that Dordt needed more classes of similar nature because Gen. 300 was one of the few classes which gave students a clearly Christian perspective. What does that say about the other classes taught at Dordt? What does that say about our students and teachers? Obviously, something isn't right with our understanding of Christian education.

The answer to this problem takes us back to our definition of Christian education. Putting Christian students and teachers together does not make a Christian college. Rather, it is our obedience to the Word of God in our academic life which makes a college Christian. All of us need to discipline our minds and concentrate on how that Word of God is reflected in the academic sphere.

In order to do that, however, two things must be done. Our teachers must be continually obedient to the

Word in their teaching, and our students must be diligent in their understanding of the Word and how it relates to their course work. Students must not expect to sit passively in the classroom, soaking up whatever comes to them. They too need to be diligent in the formulation of their own thought. If students cannot stand confessionally on their own two feet at school, what makes us think they will be any better once they graduate and face those people who have no regard for the Bible? Training for service is not a passive activity, but rather one which involves strenuous discipline.

Why go to a Christian college?

All of us need to take seriously our reasons for going to a college like Dordt because supporting or attending a Christian college is a statement of our faith. It is a statement which asserts that we as Christians must be educated in a radically different way, for we are the antithesis.

All of us--as teachers, students, parents, and supporters of Christian education--have to ask ourselves

whether our involvement with Dordt is a statement of our faith. Do we attend Dordt in order to prepare ourselves for service to our Lord? If that isn't the case, perhaps we should re-examine our motives.

Preparing ourselves for service to the Lord is not an easy thing. It's going to take a great deal of effort and work to prepare us sufficiently for that task. God even commands us to "give diligence." This means that we must strive to discipline our minds according to the Word of God. If we are being faithful in using the Bible as our standard for education, we will become workmen "who need not be ashamed."

"Therefore, prepare your mind for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace given to you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy'" (I Peter 1:13-16).

Fighting complacency

To the Editor:

An unfortunate situation is occurring at Dordt's sister college, Calvin College, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. A Calvin professor by the name of Kerry Hollingsworth has had his contract terminated after several years of teaching political science from a distinctively Reformed Christian point of view. Despite protests from students, including a sit-in at the administration building, Hollingsworth is being replaced by someone most students feel represents the Reformed world view in a much weaker manner.

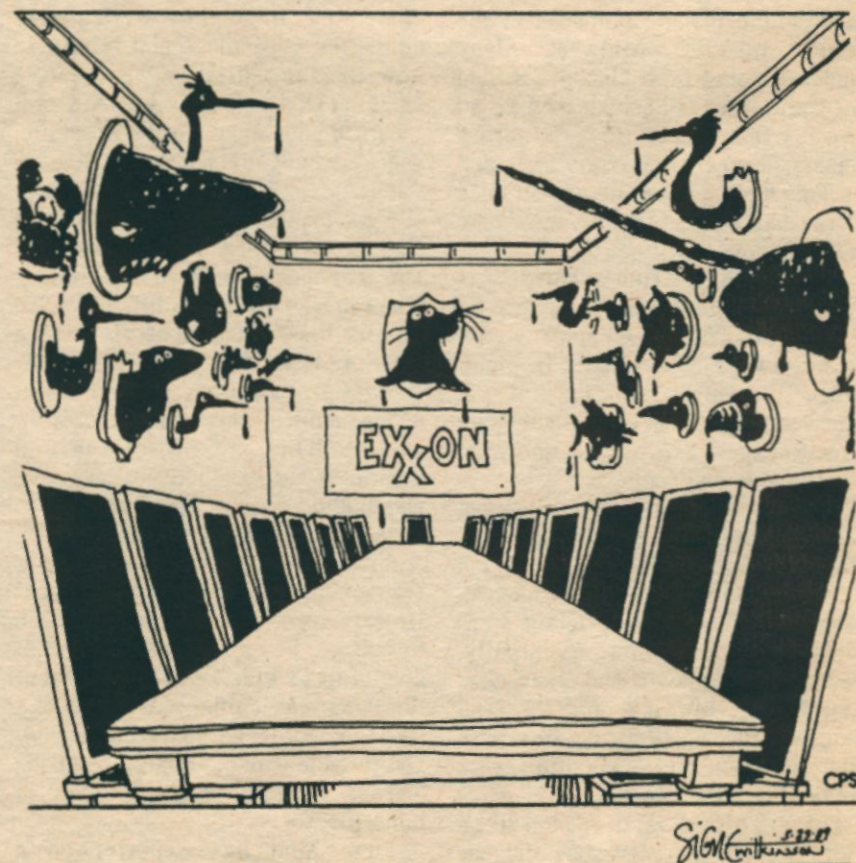
Now you may be asking what this has to do with us at Dordt. I'd like to make two points.

First, Dordt could head in the same direction as Calvin. We must do all we can as students to ensure that a strong Reformed perspective is evident at all classes. As one Calvin student put it, "If I wanted Calvin to be like Wheaton, I would have gone to Wheaton."

Second, we as students should not be complacent. At Calvin, a group of students representing such diverse groups as the Young Republicans and the so-called "long-haired liberals" got together to fight what they felt was a wrong done at Calvin. There are problems at Dordt too, and we students should examine ourselves to see if we are being too complacent. If we are complacent now, it won't be long until a situation like the one at Calvin occurs at Dordt.

Personally, I think Dordt ought to hire Kerry Hollingsworth. Dordt already has an excellent Political Science department, but having one more committed Reformed scholar walking around never hurt anyone. And lest we too lose our unique Reformed worldview, let's do all we can as students to learn and practice what is taught here at Dordt.

Chuck Adams



Chapel seals memories

by Rob Van Kooten

The first time I saw the Dordt College chapel, I was a sophomore in high school. I noticed the chapel stood taller than any other building on campus and as I looked up, I saw the seal of Dordt College stamped high on the front. Little did I know at that time what that building would mean to me some day.

Six years later, as a senior, I walk by the chapel every day. I remember national events, chapel services, and graduation ceremonies that took place during the past four years. I dream about the biggest event, my graduation day, still to come. The chapel has become a symbol of my college experience.

I won't forget that cold, crisp January morning in 1986 when Mr. Van Soelen ran into the auditorium immediately after chapel and shouted, "It just came over the news, the space shuttle just blew up!" I was shocked. This normal January day had turned into an important day in our nation's history. I ran back to the dorm as fast as I could to turn on the television.

One November morning in 1986, I awoke to hear the news that three

Western Christian High School students were killed in a car accident on the way to school. There was a restless feeling all over campus that morning and my heart ached for the brothers and sisters of these students. Dr. Hulst spoke in chapel that morning about the special chapel service he had just attended at Western Christian High School. He spoke about the pain and sorrow he had seen on those high school kids' faces and he reminded us of the comfort we have, knowing that God loved these students and took them home.

But more has happened in the chapel than chapel services. As I walk by every morning, I still see those black security guards standing on the front lawn around Jesse Jackson. When Rev. Jackson was here, the chapel was more crowded than I had ever seen it before--people were standing in the aisles. Afterwards as Jesse was leaving, I walked up to him, holding out my hand. I was too intimidated to say anything, so he said, "Thank you, friend!"

The next year George Bush came to

town. I still remember the line-up outside the chapel and wondered how all these people would get in. A helicopter flew overhead, looking to see if there was anyone on the roof tops. The state patrol cars, the sheriff, and the ambulance were parked in front of the chapel. I saw Mr. Van Soelen and a student move the trash can because a sniper might be inside of it. I remember the bullet proof car driving on campus and around the back so no one could see Bush get out of the car.

Today as I walk by the chapel, I think about what it will be like on graduation day. After the ceremony I'll be standing on the sidewalk in front of that building. Everyone will be shaking hands and congratulating the seniors.

I'll be in a corner with my family standing around me. Dad and Mom are the reason that I'll be standing there. It was their dream and one of their life time goals to see me graduate. I wonder if my grandfather would ever have thought he would have a grandson graduating from a college like Dordt, when he, at only

twelve years old, came across on a boat to this new country. He would have been proud.

All around me will be my friends, the ones who I've studied and lived with. It could be the last time that I'll see some of my professors who were understanding when I had a late paper, who listened to me when I had a problem, and who taught me that I must serve God in whatever job I have.

I don't know where I'll be next year at this time. But one thing will remain in my mind: the chapel. I'll always remember that big seal of Dordt College stamped high on the front of the building.

Some day when I'm in a place where there are people who tell me that they don't believe in God, I'll remember that tall, concrete chapel still standing tall in the middle of northwest Iowa.

Four years of wind, snow, and storms and the chapel still stands -- four years of tests, papers, and struggles. Soli-Deo-Gloria.

Vietnamese complete four years

by Dan Mennega

A few short months ago, the tropical humidity of Vietnam wouldn't have sounded bad compared to the frigid wind of the Midwest. Many students would probably have settled for California, rather than endure an Iowa winter. Three graduating seniors, Tuan Huynh, Ngoc Tran, and Su Tran have spent winters in all three places and are glad that the snow here is finally gone.

Graduating from Dordt is something the three have looked forward to for a long time, although it hasn't always been clearly in sight. When Tuan Huynh first came to Dordt four years ago, he wasn't exactly sure what to expect, nor was he sure what he wanted to do in college.

Su Tran was in a similar situation, not knowing what subjects he was really interested in.

In order to find an area of interest, each experimented in different areas of Dordt's curriculum. Eventually, Tuan Huynh's interest and talent were found to be biology, and Su Tran discovered that business administration and accounting were the fields he should pursue.

Ngoc Tran says that she liked biology from the very start and has pursued her degree ever since. She says that Dordt has helped her in many ways, including her Christian

life.

When Tuan, Su, and Ngoc first came to college they were newly converted Christians, and relatively new to the Christian perspective taught at Dordt. Tuan says, "At Dordt I learned a lot about American culture, and also the Christian perspective on things."

Ngoc expressed her thankfulness to God for providing for them while at Dordt, especially in the beginning when it was the most difficult. She recalls the first day of class as a freshman, walking into Professor Vander Zee's botany class and not understanding a single thing he said.

Help from the professors and people at Dordt made the language and cultural difficulties seem easier to overcome for the three students.

Su says that the four years spent at Dordt improved his view of himself. He explained that when he first came to college, he didn't consider himself able to fit in with American people or the American culture. He says that through Dordt, he has become very comfortable with the English language and has gained a lot of confidence in himself.

Tuan also has experienced a growing contentment with life in America. He says that he appreciates the understanding of most Dordt

students over cultural differences existing between the Vietnamese students and the Americans. Tuan plans to go to school in California, attend graduate school, or work in a health-related job.

Ngoc's goals for the near future are to apply for and attend medical school at either an Iowa, Michigan, or California state university, and pursue a medical degree.

Su, with a business administration and accounting major, will look for work with an accounting firm.

The seniors all feel that Dordt has adequately prepared them for the future, and they repeatedly express their appreciation of the professors at Dordt who helped and encouraged

them so often as they struggled through the tough times.

Four long years, years which shaped Tuan Huynh, Ngoc Tran, and Su Tran through diverse weather, language barriers, and cultural differences, have at last reached an end. Graduation for them and many other Dordt students is now at hand.

"There are many things to be remembered," says Su of his four years in Sioux Center. One such memory is his first sight of snow. He recalls going outside and taking pictures of it. But now, he says, he would rather be in California. Tuan agrees, and notes that California doesn't have the "Iowa smell."

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Dordt recruits future Defenders

by Eric Groen

Three All-State performers head a long list of high school seniors who have committed to play basketball for Dordt College next year. Scott Wynia, a 6'3" guard from Hull Western Christian, earned second team All-State and first team All-Northwest Iowa honors, 6'6" center Craig Veurink, from Dakota Christian, was named to South Dakota's Class "B" third squad, and Gailen Van Roekel, a 6'3" guard, garnered Grand Rapids' All-City and Michigan All-State awards.

Joining Wynia from Western Christian's class 2A consolation championship team are 6'6" center Dave Vaan Drager, named to the *Sioux City Journal's* All-Northwest Iowa third team, and 6'7" forward Troy Kooima. From Unity Christian in Orange City, the Defenders signed 6'6" forward Harold Wieringa, another third team All-Northwest Iowa player, and 6'4" forward Cal De Jong. Galva

Holstein's Mike Kollbaum, a 6'8" center who also earned third team All-Northwest Iowa recognition, and Pella Christian teammates Doug Veenstra and Jeff Zylstra round out Dordt's in-state recruits.

Along with Veurink and Van Roekel, the Defenders picked up several solid players outside Iowa. Brad Vis, a 6'3" guard from Southwest Christian in Edgerton, Minnesota, was named second team All-Area by the *Worthington (Minnesota) Globe*, and 6'1" guard Mike Kooi earned All-Area honors while playing for Lakewood Christian in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Brian Sipma, a 6'4" forward from Lyndon (Washington) Christian and Rich Vander Tuig, from Ontario (California) Christian, have also agreed to play for Dordt.

Coach Rick Vander Berg is very pleased with the size of this year's recruiting class and looks forward to seeing them in Defender uniforms.

A more diverse Dordt

by Chuck Adams

Something important will happen on May 12. Three students from Vietnam will cross the stage with several hundred Americans and Canadians, largely of Dutch Calvinist background. My congratulations to Su Tran, Ngoc Tran, and Tuan Huynh. Their accomplishment is something to be proud of. Completing four years of college in a foreign language and different culture is a difficult task, and they have succeeded. And those of us who have allowed them to influence our lives have learned a great deal from them. I hope more and more students from Vietnam come to Dordt. They have added a much needed element of diversity to an all-too-homogeneous campus.

Reading the cover story of the latest *Canon*, I was once again reminded that Dordt's diversity still leaves something to be desired. Because having friends and acquaintances from other countries, other denominations, other ethnic groups, can be an excellent learning experience, Dordt should be doing more to attract a

diverse body of students, all the while maintaining its reformed (not necessarily Dutch Christian Reformed) perspective. There are various communities of reformed and presbyterian believers around the world and nation, and Dordt should do what it can to attract more of these students. Recruitment efforts should not be limited to Christian schools in towns with Christian Reformed Churches. A lot of Christian Reformed people don't realize it, but there are many denominations and churches whose beliefs are compatible with our own (the CRC's biggest growth in New England is among already existing congregational churches looking to plant roots in a strong evangelical denomination.) Many independent evangelical churches hold beliefs similar to our own. CRCers don't hold a monopoly on perspective. Although a basic Christian perspective should be expected of Dordt students, some diversity is good.

Dordt should also work harder to recruit minority students. There are few African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, or Native Americans on campus this year. Having minorities on campus helps students learn in a more diverse atmosphere, and allows students to realize that there is a world outside white America that does not include drugs and crime. Too many stereotypes exist at Dordt. We could learn a great deal from people who come from a background different than our own. And besides, why should we keep Dordt's excellent reformed education to ourselves. Let's share it.

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sports

Dordt hits track

by Edgar Veldman

The stage is set this coming weekend for one of track and field's most historic and prestigious meets: the Drake Relays.

Dordt College's men and women's sprint medley team, consisting of Craig Heynen, Rob Redeker, Roger Ellens, and Kevin Veenstra, qualified with a time of 3:42.5 at the Dordt Invitational two weeks ago. The women's team, consisting of Joeli Kooima, Sandi Driesen, Lisa Van Eps, and Francis Ton, qualified just this past weekend at the Sioux City Relays with a time of 1:55.2.

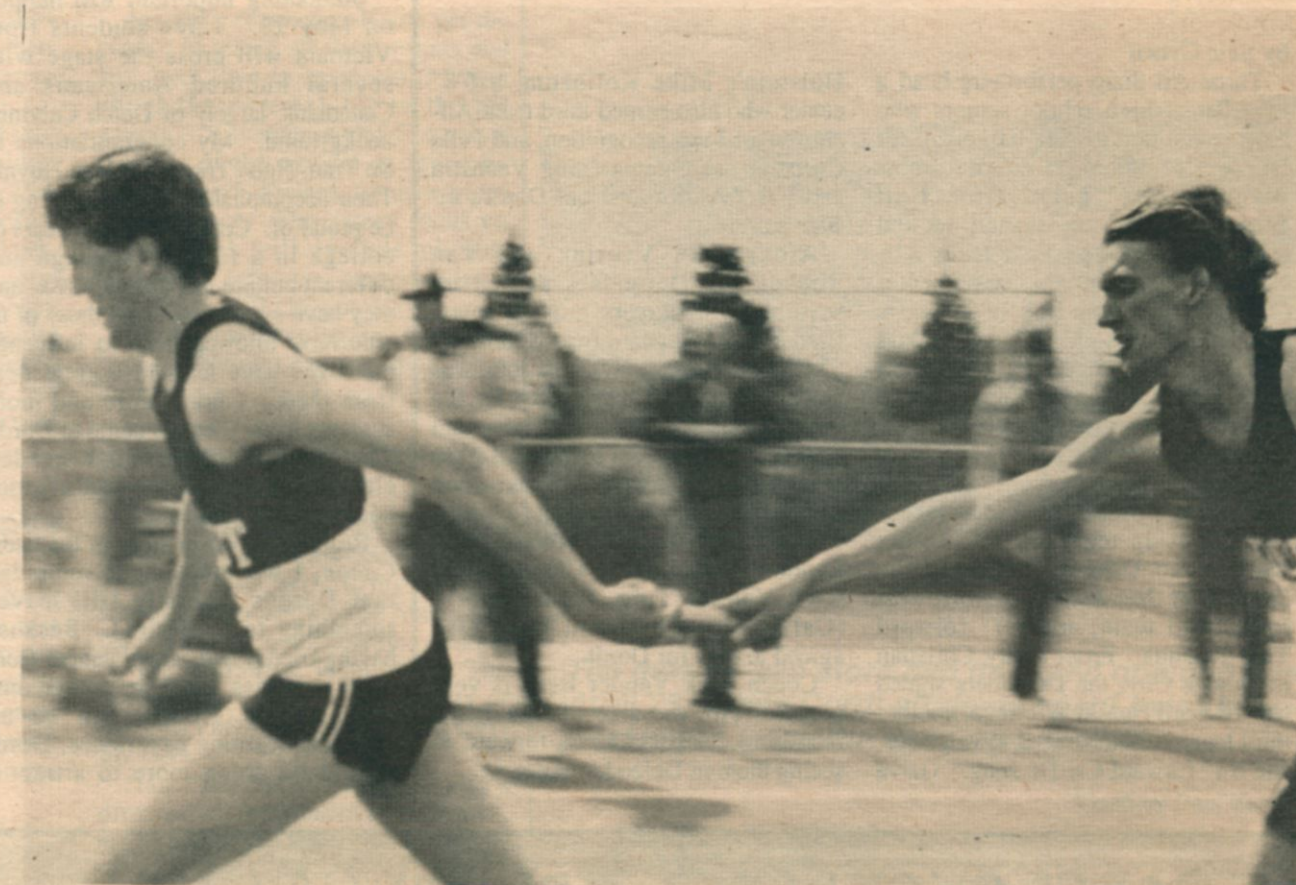
Last Saturday, the team travelled to Sioux City to run in the Sioux City Relays and several individuals' performances stood out. Joeli Kooima came within a half inch of Dordt's long jump record with a second place leap of 17'6 1/2". Kooima also picked up a third in the triple jump.

Bill Vander Kooi placed a respectable fourth in the men's javelin while Francis Ton ran a 61 second 400m to finish fourth.

Dordt's relay teams also performed well as the men's 4X800 team, consisting of Jonathon Grossman, Kevin Veenstra, Dave Tebben, and Roger Ellens, finished third in a tough field of NCAA Division II competitors. Kevin Veenstra's split time of 1:55.2 qualified him for the NAIA National Track Meet in Azusa, California this summer.

The women's 4X200 team came within one tenth of the school record. Team members included Sandi Driesen, Joeli Kooima, Lois Pastine, and Lavonne Boer.

Coach Syne Altena explained he is



Rob Louters hands the baton off to Hans Wilting during a relay at the Dordt Invitational meet.

Photo by Angela Eriksen

happy with both the men's and women's teams this year. Altena feels the women's team has done remarkably well considering it has only eight team members. The men's team, he notes, has improved vastly from last year which he credits to his

"dedicated senior leadership."

According to Altena, one of the season's highlights has been the steady development of Francis Ton as a premier 400m runner. Other members of Dordt's track team putting in steady performances include: Phouang

Nonginthirath, Hans Wilting, Larry Faber, Todd De Weerd, Al Brummel, Jeff Nibbelink, and Rob Louters. Stacey Vanden Bos, Marlin Schoonhoven, and Camielle Schelhaas are members not able to participate due to injuries.

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Tennis team nets even record

by Steve Hoogland

Men's tennis coach Len Rhoda says, "Because of our depth, we feel we have a chance to enter every match we play."

The team has three wins and three losses. The Defenders have beaten Westmar twice and Sioux Falls College once. Their losses have come at the hands of Northwestern twice and once to Sioux Falls.

Tim Kramer, Tim Antonides, and Chris Huiskens anchor the team and give the team a solid chance to win every match. Another returning letterman is Gerald Dekker. The

tennis team also has some first year players in Kendal Kaemingk, Brett Dorhout, Steve Kortenhoeven, and Phil Witt.

The tennis team travels to Vermillion to play their final match of the year against USD on Tuesday, May 2. At the Buena Vista tournament last weekend Dordt took third.

Rhoda says, "We look forward to next year. Dekker is the only graduating player and we feel with a little experience, we could be very good next season."